

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 068511

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SUBJECT: WHITE HOUSE SPOKESMAN'S COMMENTS ON PRESIDENT'S
ATTENDANCE AT MEMORIAL SERVICES FOR PRESIDENT POMPIDOU

PASS ALSO TO BRUCE WELEHAM, WHITE HOUSE ADVANCE TEAM

1. FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF REMARKS MADE BY THE WHITE
HOUSE SPOKESMAN (WARREN) ON APRIL 4, 1974, REGARDING THE
PRESIDENT'S ATTENDANCE AT THE OFFICIAL MEMORIAL SERVICE
FOR PRESIDENT POMPIDOU.

BEGIN QUOTE

MR. WARREN: FIRST LET ME TELL YOU THAT THE PRESIDENT WILL
ATTEND THE OFFICIAL MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR PRESIDENT POMPIDOU
OF FRANCE ON SATURDAY IN PARIS. THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE
OFFICIAL UNITED STATES DELEGATION WILL BE ASSISTANT TO THE
PRESIDENT ALEXANDER M. HAIG, JR.; MAJOR GENERAL BRENT
SCOWCROFT, DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR NATIONAL
SECURITY AFFAIRS, AND JOHN N. IRWIN II, U.S. AMBASSADOR
TO FRANCE.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 068511

WE WILL HAVE THE NAMES OF THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE PARTY ACCOMPANYING THE PRESIDENT FOR YOU LATER.

THE PRESIDENT WILL DEPART WASHINGTON FRIDAY MORNING, AND FOR YOUR GUIDANCE, I THINK WILL RETURN LATE SATURDAY.

FOR THE PRESS, WE ARE PLANNING NOW AN 8:00 A.M. BAGGAGE CHECK-IN AT ANDREWS AND DEPARTURE AT 8:45 A.M.

Q: WHAT TIME IS THE PRESIDENT LEAVING, JERRY?

MR. WARREN: I DON'T HAVE THAT YET. I WILL TRY TO GET IT FOR YOU.

Q: IS MRS. NIXON GOING?

MR. WARREN: NO, SHE IS NOT.

Q: IS THE SECRETARY OF STATE NOT GOING?

MR. WARREN: THE SECRETARY OF STATE IS NOT GOING. THE PRESIDENT, OF COURSE, IS GOING TO PARIS TO PAY RESPECT ON HIS BEHALF AND ON BEHALF OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, AND WILL BE TAKING ALONG THE SECRETARY'S DEPUTY HERE IN THE WHITE HOUSE, MAJOR GENERAL BRENT SCOWCROFT, BUT THE SECRETARY WILL REMAIN IN ACAPULCO.

Q: CAN YOU SAY WHO THE PRESIDENT WILL MEET OVER THERE?

MR. WARREN: BOB, THE PRESIDENT HAS NO PLANS FOR SUBSTANTIVE MEETINGS WITH OTHER FOREIGN LEADERS WHILE HE IS IN PARIS. AS I SAID EARLIER, HE PLANS TO GO TO PARIS TO PAY HIS RESPECT AND THE RESPECT OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE TO THE MEMORY OF PRESIDENT POMPIDOU, AND THE PRESIDENT BELIEVES IT WOULD BE INAPPROPRIATE TO ENGAGE IN ANY OTHER BUSINESS ON SUCH AN OCCASION.

Q: JERRY, WILL THE PRESIDENT LEAVE FOR WASHINGTON THEN, SHORTLY AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF THE SERVICES?

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 068511

MR. WARREN: I AM NOT CLEAR ON WHAT MIGHT FOLLOW THE SERVICE, FRED, AND AS SOON AS I AM, WE WILL LET YOU KNOW. BUT ON BACKGROUND, I CAN SAY THAT IF THERE IS A RECEPTION, SAY -- AND I AM NOT SURE THERE IS -- BUT IF THERE IS A RECEPTION GIVEN BY THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT OR BY PRESIDENT POHER, THE PRESIDENT WOULD ATTEND THAT AND THEN RETURN TO WASHINGTON.

I JUST GIVE YOU THAT SO YOU CAN UNDERSTAND, AND THAT WOULD BE THE CASE IF THERE IS SUCH A RECEPTION.

Q: NO SIDE TRIPS?

MR. WARREN: NO.

Q: THAT WOULD BE THE EXTENT OF HIS ACTIVITIES?

MR. WARREN: YES.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION, THOSE WHO HAVE KEPT RECORDS ON THIS, THE PRESIDENT HAS VISITED FRANCE TWICE SINCE ASSUMING OFFICE IN 1969. THE FIRST VISIT WAS FEBRUARY 28 TO MARCH 2, 1969, AND THEN HE ATTENDED THE FUNERAL OF PRESIDENT DE GAULLE ON NOVEMBER 12, 1970. ON THAT OCCASION HE ARRIVED ON THE EVENING OF THE 11TH AND THE FUNERAL WAS ON THE 12TH.

THE PRESIDENT HAD MET WITH PRESIDENT POMPIDOU IN FEBRUARY OF 1970 DURING PRESIDENT POMPIDOU'S STATE VISIT TO WASHINGTON; MARCH 2, 1970, IN NEW YORK; DURING THE DE GAULLE FUNERAL IN NOVEMBER OF 1970, AND THE PRESENT WENT TO THE AZORES TO MEET PRESIDENT POMPIDOU IN DECEMBER 1971, AND THEN THEY HAD THEIR MOST RECENT MEETING IN ICELAND MAY 31 TO JUNE 1, 1973.

ALSO, THE PRESIDENT LAST MET THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE, AND NOW SITTING PRESIDENT OF FRANCE, ALAIN POHER, DURING THE FEBRUARY 1969 VISIT TO PARIS. END QUOTE
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